M/035/009



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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

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July 16, 1993

Mr. Dave Hodson Barneys Canyon Mine P.O. Box 311 Bingham Canyon, Utah 84006-0311

RE: Mine Pit Discharge, Ground Water

Discharge Permit UGW350001

Dear Mr. Hodson:

We are replying to your request of July 7, 1993 to discharge ground water pumped from wells in the Barneys Pit to Barneys Canyon Wash. We previously granted this permission in February 7, 1992 on the basis that this discharge was a "deminimus" impact. The dissolved solids of the pit water was 409 mg/l and the sulfate concentration was 56 mg/l. Ground water in the area is Class II with an average dissolved solids content of 653 mg/l and an average sulfate concentration of 34. A protection level for sulfate was set at 63 mg/l (.25 times the current secondary standard of 250 mg/l). The data submitted with your latest request indicates the proposed discharge is still below this original deminimus limit. While water is currently pumped from the pit and from wells and piped to the Copperton concentrator, there is no use for this proposed additional pumpage.

On the basis of the above information, the proposed discharge remains a deminimus situation and Barneys Canyon may discharge the well water to Barneys and Bancroft Canyon washes, provided the discharge does not exceed the same requirements of our February 7, 1992 letter. The discharge must not contain significant quantities of solids, does not exceed dissolved solids concentrations of 645 mg/l, sulfate concentrations of 63 mg/l, oil and grease of 10 mg/l, and the pH range of 6.5-9.0. To assure adherence with these conditions, we request that you monitor the discharge and should these limits be exceeded we will need to be notified and the situation be reevaluated.

Based on the above information provided, we have determined that there would be no discharge off of Kennecott property. Therefore, a UPDES discharge permit will not be necessary at this

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time. If there are any changes in the discharge, or if you are unable to meet these conditions, you must notify us and the necessity of a permit will be reevaluated. In addition we may choose to permit this discharge and similar discharges in the future if these are found to be significant.

If you have questions, call Mack Croft at 538-6146.

Sincerely,

Utah Water Quality Board

Don A. Ostler, P.E. Executive Secretary

DAO:MC:gt

cc: Kent Miner, SLC Health Dept.
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

P:MPDISPER.LTR FILE:BARNEYS CANYON